

## WASSMAN TELLS OF YEAR'S WORK

All Parks and Playgrounds Improved by Department During 1920.

### LOOKING AFTER KIDDIES

(BY COMMISSIONER WASSMAN)  
As the commissioner of public utilities, grounds and buildings, I will try to give a concise way to review what has been done by my department during the year of 1920.

As is well known the following parks are under our supervision: Warner, Jackson, East Lake, Eastmore, Houston, Boynton, Montague and Lincoln. Warner park is the amusement park. During the year the following have been added: Two new baseball diamonds, a new automobile road inside the park, so that machines can now park on the west side of the park, a boat swing for the children, and an attraction "through the falls" has also been added. All plans have been made for an up-to-date swimming pool, which will be installed this year.

Lincoln Park for Colored.

Our department has bought five additional acres for this park, which will give an athletic and baseball field. Montague park has been gone over, and next summer can be used as a playground for the people that live in that vicinity.

There has been added about twenty-five new street lights in the parts of the city that needed them most.

The question of a municipal ice plant has been passed on by the city commission, and will be introduced by the members of the legislature of this legislature of this county, and I hope to put same into operation next year, if possible. If this plant is put into operation, ice can be delivered to the citizens at a fair price.

Our men under the seal of weights and measures department have adjusted many gas, water, electric lights and ice complaints, confiscated many measures and inspected about 1,000 scales during the year.

Of course I realize that there are a great many things that can be done for the good of the parks, but it takes a great deal of money, and a small bond issue for the improvement of parks would certainly help. I trust the community will sponsor such an issue.

I am a great believer in small playgrounds for children in the thickly populated sections of the city, and now it is the time to make such purchases before property becomes so high that it will be impossible to procure same.

During the past year, through this department, the people were given free hand concerts, two each week. I hope to be able to repeat the same thing during the year of 1921.

Now let's hope for better and bigger things for our city during the year of 1921.

## The News' Modern Business Office



Visitors coming into the business office are wont to exclaim: "Why, this looks more like a bank office than a newspaper, it is so open and orderly!" And so it is. A steel counter runs the width of the front office. The private telephone exchange of The News is immediately behind the right-hand corner. By calling any of The News' telephone numbers, The News' operator will be secured and will give connection with any of the departments in the building.

In this office the accounting, circulation and advertising departments are partially housed. On the mezzanine floor shown in the background of this picture some of the display advertising men have their quarters. Air, sunlight, space—these are the results of the new business office which now houses the "downstairs" of The News.

### MUCH WORK DONE ON COUNTY ROADS IN 1920

Hamilton county has accomplished a good deal in improvement and construction of roads during 1920. The two largest projects are the concrete road being constructed from Soddy to the Ithaca county line and the road being built in the Fourth district (old James county).

During the first three months of the past year little was accomplished in road construction due to the unfavorable weather conditions. However, as soon as possible work was begun in the Fourth district and during the course of the year thirty-five miles of road was constructed, concrete bridges were built and other forms of improvement carried on. At various times during the summer and fall a force of about 300 men was employed on the roads of old James county.

On July 1 work was begun on the concrete highway which is to be built from Soddy to the Ithaca county line. To quote the report of the highway

commission to the county court, "this is possibly the greatest stride towards obtaining good roads ever made by Hamilton county." Four miles of the highway have been completed beginning at Sale Creek and running to a little south of Bakewell.

Thus far, according to Judge Conner, the concrete road has cost the county little, the county's quota of one-third of the expenses being met by the use of convicts and road machinery. This is thought to be a remarkable record since \$400,000 highways are seldom constructed without a bond issue for the amount. Under the agreement, Hamilton county was to pay one-third of the cost, the state and federal governments paying the other two-thirds.

In 1920 additions to the road machinery owned by the county were made consisting of three 20-ton caterpillar tractors, one 5-ton tractor, one concrete mixer, one steam shovel, one pump and various other small articles of road machinery.

The usual routine work of maintaining present roads was, of course, kept

### RAILWAY CARMEN ELECT OFFICERS FOR YEAR

At the last regular business meeting of Lookout Lodge, No. 311, Brotherhood Railway Carmen of America, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

H. C. Patterson, president; R. H. Wright, vice-president; W. W. Kirkpatrick, recording secretary; G. W. Fuller, financial secretary; W. W. Smith, treasurer; J. H. Wood, guide; J. P. Harris, warden; G. W. Matheny, sentinel; T. J. Riordan, chaplain; H. Poe, L. E. Smith, G. C. Smith, trustees; W. E. Rowland, L. P. Rose and G. W. Fuller, local protectors.

### RECORD OF LYNCHINGS COMPILED FOR 1920

R. R. Moton, Head of Tuskegee, Issued Report Giving Details.

Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee institute, has issued the following record of lynchings for the past year. He says: "The department of records and research of the Tuskegee institute show that there were 86 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, 10 were in northern states and 46 were in southern states. In 42 of the cases, the prisoners were removed or the guards were augmented or other precautions taken. In 14 instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 4 of these instances the mobs were fired

upon and as a result, 7 of the attackers were killed and several wounded.

"There were 61 persons lynched in 1920. Of these, 52 were in the south and 9 in the north and west. This is 22 less than the number, 83, for the year 1919. Of those lynched 53 were negroes and 8 were whites. One of those put to death was a negro woman. Eighteen, or less than one-third of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape. Three of the victims were burned to death. The charges against those burned to death were: Rape and murder, 1; killing land-lord in a dispute, 2.

"The offenses charged the whites were: Murder, 5; insulting woman, 1; no charge except being a foreigner, 1; killing officer of the law, 1. The offenses charged against the negroes were: Murder, 5; attempted murder, 4; killing officer of the law, 5; killing land-lord in dispute, 6; rape, 15; attempted rape, 2; assisting fugitive to escape, 3; wounding another, 2; insulting woman, 2; knocking down guard, escaping from chain-gang and then returning and sur-

rendering, 3; jumping labor contract, 1; threatening to kill man, 1; cutting a man in a fight, 1; for receiving stay of death sentence because another confessed crime, 1; peeping through window at woman, 1; insisting on voting, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 7; Arkansas, 1; California, 3; Florida, 7; Georgia, 9; Illinois, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Minnesota, 3; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 1; North Carolina, 3; Ohio, 1; Oklahoma, 3; South Carolina, 1; Texas, 10; Virginia, 1; West Virginia, 1."

### GEORGIAN SHOTS SELF

Albany, Ga., Dec. 31.—John H. Slapney, a prosperous farmer, and father of Jack Slapney, pitcher for the Philadelphia Americans and star on the Georgia university nine last season, committed suicide by shooting himself through the head yesterday. His health is believed to have caused the act.

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## A Happy New Year

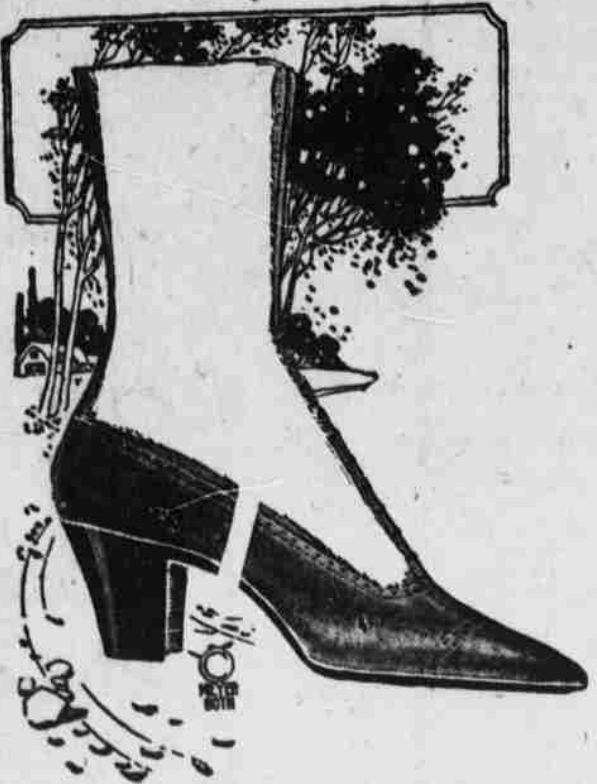
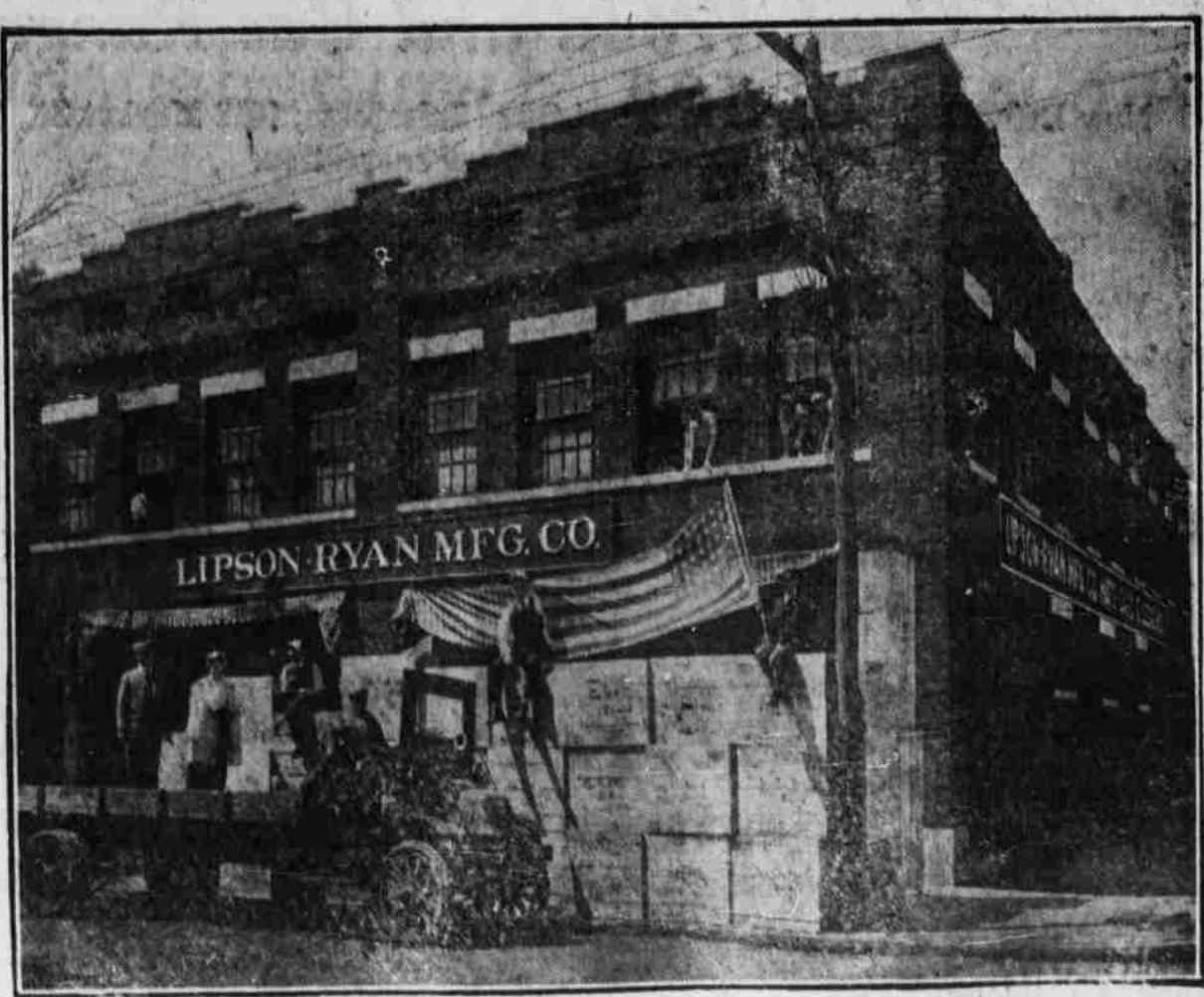
TO ALL OUR PATRONS

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